

Brief newsletter

December | 2006

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1 **New Mayor, Councilmembers Take Oath of Office**

This month, Cheryl Cox becomes the City of Chula Vista's 39th mayor. Cox, who was elected November 7, will be sworn-in as mayor during a special ceremony December 5. Also receiving the oath of office will be re-elected Councilmember John McCann and newcomer Councilman-elect Rudy Ramirez. The ceremony begins at 4 p.m. and will be followed by a brief reception and a regularly scheduled council meeting.

2 **Downtown Parking Study**

A special community meeting scheduled for December 12, is a unique opportunity for the public to get involved and participate in solving downtown parking issues. As the City moves forward with an unprecedented parking study, it's requesting input from residents and business owners about parking availability, location and cost.

The 7:30 a.m. meeting, dedicated only to parking issues along the Third Avenue corridor, will be held at Community Congregation Church in Bradley Hall, located at 276 F. Street. Discussion will include an overview of the purpose and goals of the Parking Management Study, the process surrounding it and a preliminary schedule for completion of the study. Contact Diem Do at (619) 585-5731 for more information.



3 **A Media Partner for CVPD**

The Chula Vista Police Department has a new presence on the worldwide web thanks to a partnership with KGTV, Channel 10. Visitors to **www.10News.com**, can get a rare look inside local law enforcement by reading an e-blog featuring a journal written by Chula Vista police officer Alan dela Pena. In regular entries to his "Officer's Journal," dela Pena shares anecdotes, crime prevention tips and general information about law enforcement. The intent is to give the public a better understanding of the challenges police officers face on a daily basis. Officer dela Pena is a 14-year veteran of law enforcement. Read about him and the work he does by visiting Channel 10's home page.

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Get the Picture

In an effort to make travel safer, Chula Vista's three trolley stations are now outfitted with new security cameras. Nearly 30 digital cameras—all with enhanced night vision capabilities—will monitor bus bays, parking lots and platforms. Cameras are mounted at various locations in and around the trolley stations at E, H and

Palomar Streets. The cameras, already in use at some San Diego stations, have become a valuable crime-fighting tool. The Chula Vista City Council expects the cameras to boost public confidence and increase ridership. The cost of installation was shared by the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) and the City. Councilmember and MTS board member Jerry Rindone says, "With congestion on our freeways and the rising cost of gasoline, the trolley is the smart way to travel. Now its riders will feel safer knowing the cameras are operating."

5 Sign Up for Recreation Classes

Registration for winter recreation classes at all city facilities begins on Dec. 4. The City's Recreation Department offers a wide range of classes from preschool and performing arts to fitness and the creative. Start the New Year by taking a new class or attending any number of free or low-cost programs. Check out the Winter 2006-07 Schedule of Classes, Programs and Events brochure for a list all of classes. Additionally, the brochure highlights programs offered by the Chula Vista Public Library, and a summary of programs offered by the Boys & Girls Club of Chula Vista and the South Bay Family YMCA. The brochure is posted online at www.chulavistaca.gov/rec or available at any city recreation center or public library.



6 Firefighters Adopt a Family

Every year around the holidays, the Chula Vista Firefighter Foundation comes to the rescue by "adopting" local families in need. This year, the foundation is hoping to give 40 families a holiday season they'll never forget. To do that, firefighters need the help and support of the community--organizations, families and individuals--who will

"adopt a family" by fulfilling their wish list. Gifts like clothing, shoes, toys and more will be delivered via fire truck by December 25. If you're interested in adopting a family or just want to help, call the Firefighter Foundation hotline at (619) 691-5030 or e-mail firefighterfoundation@ci.chula-vista.ca.us for more details.

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Home 4 the Holidays

During this holiday season, consider adopting a pet from the Chula Vista Animal Care Facility. At a time of the year when shelters are often overcrowded, the staff and volunteers are encouraging local residents to consider adopting one of the facility's many orphaned animals. Their message is hitting home via the annual eight-week Home 4 the Holidays campaign, which got underway November 6. More than 1,000 animal organizations from around the country are part of the awareness campaign. For more information on Home 4 the Holidays, contact Isabel Bermudez at (619) 476-2491.

8 Parents' Night Out

Among the variety of holiday activities planned at Chula Vista's recreation centers during December, are special daytime or evening activities for children, giving their parents time to complete holiday shopping or gift-wrapping. In addition, several centers have planned Winter Day Camps. To locate one of these offerings at a recreation center near you, go to www.chulavistaca.gov/rec.



9 Recruits Wanted

Are you over 50 years old and searching for a rewarding way to make a difference in the community you love? Consider becoming a member of Chula Vista's Senior Volunteer Patrol (SVP), an organization that acts as the official eyes and ears of the Chula Vista Police Department. The SVP is actively recruiting new members for a variety of important duties and key community programs. As a member of the Senior Volunteer Patrol, you have the opportunity to visit elderly residents at home to keep tabs on their health

and safety; teach schoolchildren about how to respond to strangers; and assist mentally challenged residents by photographing them and entering their personal information in a database. In addition, volunteers patrol public parking and issue citations, follow up on citizen complaints about abandoned vehicles and check up on homes while owners are away on vacation. Those interested can call the Senior Volunteer Patrol at (619) 476-2417.



contact

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